Increase in registeration fee for new telephone connection

494. SHRI ISHDUTT YADAV:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a proposal under consideration to increase by three times registeration fee to obtain new telephone connection in every category;

(b) if so, what will be its likely impact on the consumers; and

(c) whether Government have made any policy regarding Telecommunications/ Telephones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The proposal for revision of Registration deposits for various categories of telehopne connections is under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Telecom Policy is under active consideration.

Complaint against the irregular billings of telephone

495. SHRI ISHDUTT YADAV:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a general complaint of subscribers against non receipt of bills very often for more than a year or so, and also non delivery of bills in time;

(b) if so, what is the number of subscribers who have yet to receive bills in respect of their telephones for more than a year from the date of installation of their telephones;

(c) whether Government have made any enquiry into the working of the telephone department; and

(d) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to remove the deficiency in its functioning and to avoid unnecessary difficulties being faced by the subscribers on these accounts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Only a few localised instances of this nature have been reported.

(c) and (d) Enquiries are made into specific complaints and appropriate action is taken. As a general measures, it has been decided to issue intimation through Registered Notices to all the defaulting subscribers before disconnection of their telephones. Holding of periodic telephone Adalats and Open House Sessions for redressal of subscriber's grievances is also arranged. Issue of duplicate bills has also been facilitated by setting up of Customer Service Centres.

Production of facsimile machine in the country

496. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the countries which are the major suppliers of FAX and other transmission equipment to India and what is their cost in rupees and dollar terms;

(b) whether there is indigenous production of facsimile machines; and

(c) if not whether Government has entrusted the Centre for the Development of Telematics to develop such machines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Most of the Telecom Transmission equipment are being manufactured locally in India. As regards FAX machines these are being manufactured in India and the Deptt. of Telecom does not import them from abroad. A number of individuals are importing FAX machines and it is not feasible to provide the source or price of these machines, due to variations in size facilities, features, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of 'b' above.

Setting up of a telecom factory in Hyderabad

497. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of telecom factories in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a telecom factory at Hyderabad; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Telecom. Factory, Bombay, Telecom. Factory, Calcutta, Telecom Factory, Kharagpur. Telecom Factory, (Wright Town. Jabalpur) Telecom Factory, Rehhai Jabalpur), Telecom. Factory Bhilai.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Setting up of a Postal Housing Corporation

498. SHRI J. S. RAJU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Postal Housing Corporation;

(b) if so what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not ,what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(b) In view of (a) above question does not arise.

(c) Subject to justification for staff quarters as well as availability of funds, Department constructs staff quarters.

Evaluation of speed post system

499. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation of the speed post system so as to know the drawbacks/weaknesses;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to legalise the courier services being run by various companies in the country; and

(d) if so, whether any decision has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. Monitoring and quality control checks are continuously carried out to identify draw backs/weaknesses of Speed Post.

(b) Since Speed Post is run by a Government Department, there are some inherent constraints like inability to give discretionary discount to bulk mailers and difficulty in ensuring prompt refund of fees in case of delayed delivery.

(c) No Sir.

(d) In view of (c) above, question does not arise.